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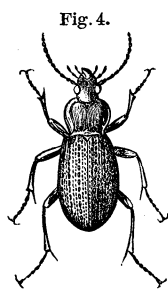
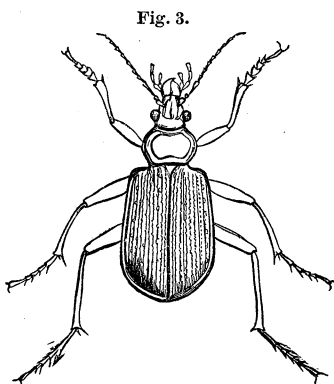
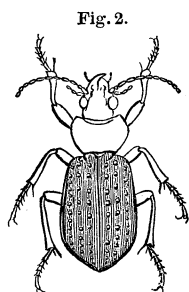
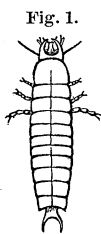
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AN ALBINO HUMMING-BIRD. — During the last summer a white Humming-bird visited many times a stand of plants on my piazza. I had several opportunities of observing it closely. It *seemed* a trifle larger than the Ruby-throat. The neck and head were of a glossy gold-color. Eyes large, black, and brilliant. After dipping its bill into all the fuschias, it did what I have never seen other Humming-birds do, alighted on a dwarf apple-tree within a few feet of me, and ate the aphides, or plant-lice, just as the sparrows and golden-wrens do. After a hearty meal of insects, it dressed its feathers, spread its wings one by one, and thrust out a very long tongue. — L. A. MILLINGTON.

## ENTOMOLOGICAL CALENDAR.

In April the injurious insects in the Northern States have scarcely begun their work of destruction, as the buds do not unfold before the first of May. We give an account, however, of some of the *beneficial* insects which are now to be found in grass-lands and in gardens. The farmer should know his true insect friends as well as his insect foes. We introduce to our readers a large family of ground-beetles (*Carabidæ*, from *Carabus*, the name of the typical genus) which prey on those insects largely injurious to crops. A study of the figures will familiarize our readers with the principal forms. They are dark-colored, brown or black, with metallic hues, and are seen in spring, and throughout the summer, running in grass, or lurking under stones and sticks in



damp places, whence they sally forth to hunt by night, when many vegetable-eating insects are most active.

The larvæ are found in much the same situations as the mature beetles. They are elongate, oblong, and rather broad, the terminal ring of the

body being armed with two horny hooks, and having a single fleshy leg beneath, and are usually black in color. The larva of *Calosoma* (*C. calidum*, Fig. 1; Fig. 2, the beetle of *C. calidum* Fabr., and Fig. 3, *C. scrutator* Fabr.) ascends trees to

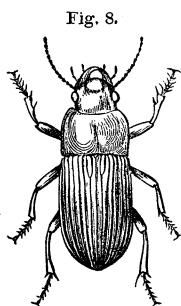


Fig. 8.

feed on caterpillars, such as the canker-worm. When about to transform to the pupa state, it forms a rude cocoon in the earth. The beetle lies in wait for its prey in shallow pits excavated in pastures. We once saw it fiercely attack a June-bug (*Lachnosterna fusca*) nearly twice its size; it tore open the hard sides of its clumsy and helpless victim with tiger-like



Fig. 5.



Fig. 6.

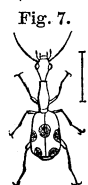


Fig. 7.

ferocity. *Carabus* (Fig. 4, *C. serratus* Say; Fig. 5, pupa of *Carabus aurontiensis* of Europe, after Westwood) is a closely allied form, with very similar habits.

A much smaller form is the curious *Bombardier* beetle, *Brachinus* (Fig.



Fig. 10.

6, *B. fumans* Linn.), with its narrow head and heart-shaped prothorax. It is remarkable for discharging with quite an explosion from the end of its body a pungent fluid, probably as a protection against its enemies.

An allied genus is *Casonia* (Fig. 7, *C. Pennsylvanica* Dejean) which has a long neck and spotted wing-covers. Fig. 8, *Pangus caliginosus* Fabr., and Fig. 9, *Agonum cupripenne* Say, represent two common forms. The former is black, while the latter is a pretty insect, greenish, with purplish red wing-covers, and black legs.

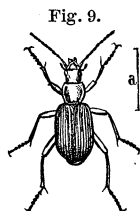


Fig. 9.

Fig. 10, enlarged about three lines, represents a singular larva found by Mr. J. H. Emerton under a stone early in spring. Dr. Leconte, to whom we sent a figure, supposes that it may possibly be a larva of *Harpalus*, or *Pangus caliginosus*. It is evidently a young Carabid. The under side is represented.

In our monthly calendar for 1868, we shall not repeat any facts stated in the calendar given in Vol. I. of the *NATURALIST*.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

E. L. M., New York.—There is no manual of American Entomology\* giving a general account of insects and the classification of the North

\*The writer has ready for the press, *A Manual of Entomology and Guide to the Study of Insects*, which will be published during the year. It is designed to be a general introduction to the